

the first book
from Hyatt

Rev Amos A. Phelps
Taunton or Boston M.S.,
N. 20 Atkinson St.

See. 2 York St. N.
Hampden May 31st
1832

and now I am in a hurry again
and must conclude by subscribing myself
yours in the bonds of Christian
fellowship and love Elijah Tilton

Rev Amos A Phelps

All the family send love to you and your
wife.

Should Mr. Austin come, I think we might
decide the case soon, but otherwise it may
be delayed some longer, and could we have
but the shadow of protest for a division, it might
be affected; but untill there is some movement, we are
under very disadvantageous circumstances to separate.
yet, I hear the inquiry, is it not best to separate
even now, and I believe had we but a place
to meet in, & if you would come and preach to
us, we should have a good congregation, for our
hearts are yet towards you, and the church mourn
and weep in secret places. & that we could arise
and come out from among them and be separate
is the feeling that seems to pervade your friends,
but shall I say to you that there is too much of a
dispondence to be seen among the brethren and I fear
we do not look to our saviour with that confidence
that we should I can say that it were otherwise
O that we were as in months that are past and
gone, but to lament over our misfortunes appears
to me not to be right and I endeavour to shake off
those feelings by labouring, but alas it is hard to
labour alone or almost alone, yet it does alleviate
in some degree the gloom that is cast upon me
when I can see some who manifest a concern
for their souls & I take courage and strengthen
myself in the promises and I do believe we
shall yet receive a blessing provided we do our
duty. And now if you can give us any advice
it would be received with the greatest affection
as any thing that has a reference to you inter-
ests us more than any thing else.

I think the temperance cause is gaining ground
Mr. Rhoads lecture was heard by some that
felt its point and I hope it will do some good
but our tract distribution I fear must fail
I cannot get money collected to meet the bill
of 21 dollars & 21 cents and I could not send for
more tracts untill I had discharged that with
any fee and what to do I do not know
I cannot sustain all things, that were depen-
dant on you, and I feel as tho. I must give
it up. and now tell me what I shall do or I
know not what myself give my respects to Mr.
P and Mrs. Fitch send her love to her and say that
you may tell her that had she wing like a
bird she would fly and make her a visit

Hopkinton May 31st 1831

Dear and very dear Sir

I conclude you may think I have forgotten you, but be assured it is not the case, and in excuse for not writing to you before, and letting you know the state of ^{our} concerns and feelings, is because I could not write much to my own, and less to your satisfactions but to the burdened & worn, there is some alleviation to mingle sorrow, when it is reciprocal.

I can tell you but little but what you may know already. By other means, I should have written to you. My Mr Howe, but I was then very busy, & had but just time to write a report of the sabbath school, which I requested him to show you for correction, or alteration, as you should think proper. I wrote something more full as it respected your dismission, and the opposition to you, but on consideration, and taking advice, I thought best to leave that part out. as it might not suit your feelings, should an account of the revival be published, I think you would be the most suitable person, to prepare it for the press.

We are still in suspense about a minister, and when we shall be relieved from this state I am in competent to conjecture, Mr Curtis has preached here again, but it is not certain that he will come again, tho the committee have agreed to employ him as a candidate, provided his people consent, I cannot hear any thing said by the ~~body~~ since he preached here last, but if I could judge from looking in the face, I should say, their feelings were, we want no such man. his text was strive to enter in at the strait gate &c. and I did not believe by their look, that they were willing to make a single effort to obtain an entrance, in the way, and means, pointed out. I have not as yet altered my opinion as to their object, they appear to be in no hurry, but are quite willing to hear Mr How's old sermons, as far as I can judge, they seem to think the church will be contented to remain as they are, but this cannot long be the case, I think, and I hope I am not deceived in my conjecture, for I fear all is not right & I have a desire to see the church looking to its great head and shepherd with that faith and union that will make them appear "fair as the moon clear as the sun and terrible to opposition as an army with banners"